consider the claims of all communities in making appointments. But as you allege that the circulars are not being carried into effect, the matter will be noted for consideration and enquiry.]

171. Entertainment of Catholic Christians of South Travancore in public service.

MR. F. DAVY (*Nominated*) said that the Latin Christians could not stand comparison with the other communities in the matter of education and material well-being. Some educated men of the community went to foreign countries, *e. g.*, Burma and Ceylon, for employment, as they could not obtain appointments in the State.

The Latin Christians formed one-twelfth of the total population and one-third of the aggregate Christian population. of the State. But their representation in public service was practically *nil*. It should be the policy of Government and the heads of departments to appoint a large number of qualified Latin Catholics in service.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Davy, I may tell you that the Latin Christians will have equal opportunities with every other community in the matter of entry into public service; and they will never have differential treatment meted out to them. You may rest assured that equal opportunities will never be denied to the Latin Christians.

172. Grant of preference to the members of the Visvakarma community in the matter of recruitment to Government service and special concessions to those already in service.

MR. JOSIER M. ARUMUKHAM ASARI (*Nominated*) said that the Visvakarma community, to which he belonged, was very backward in education and that therefore the Government should take steps to help its progress. Members of the community should also be adequately represented in public service.

The member referred to the fact that they were qualified to check Tiruvabharanams in the Devaswom Department. Yet no member of that community had been appointed to do that work. Their claims to such posts should be considered early.

The Superintendent of the School of Arts should also be selected from that community. If fully qualified men were not available, members of that community should be selected to undergo training in similar institutions in Bombay, Calcutta and other places and, after training, appointed in the School of Arts, Trivandrum.

A separate officer should be appointed to control the checking and stamping of weights and measures in the State and the appointment should be set apart for members of the Visvakarma community.

Members of the community should also be entertained as Inspectors in the Excise, Police, and Co-operative Departments and also as clerks in the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Applications had been made in vain by members of the community to the heads of those departments. A circular should be issued to them to give preferential treatment to such applicants.